

Saving Money in the Home Little Tricks For Women in Household Economics

By ELIZABETH LATTIMER.

LET'S start the new year right by swapping all the good ideas we have. Today's batch contains everything from running an apartment to saving pennies on soap flakes.

Pluck Solve Problem of Having A Home.

DEAR ELIZABETH LATTIMER: From above letterhead you can readily see I am a war widow. I maintain an apartment on New Hampshire avenue and have three lovely girls in my home, who are boarders. I have a maid who comes in at 4 afternoon, cleans the house, gets and serves it, leaving everything tidied up. I have a breakfast table set for me, with the preparation of breakfast, for me. When I understand to do this I lost money, and then I set upon a way to enable me to maintain the apartment, which I so thoroughly enjoy after a day's work in the court. I have planned my meals for the past two weeks came in. On the table alone I saved \$18 in two weeks. This is how I did it: I had been ordering my groceries most prominently. The result that November 1 to November 15 the bill was \$62.92. Appalling! I devised a scheme whereby I have planned my meals for two weeks, both for breakfast and dinner. I order the day before for two days. Meat is the one dollar to watch; there is where I found big savings. Roasts are expensive, and I have no more meat in three pounds in a roast than you do if you buy a designated number of chickens. You can get a small one for one-third the amount. I tried it by getting five small ones for \$1.50. I had a roast ordered the week before weighed 2 1/2 pounds at 50 cents per pound, cost me \$1.25, with not enough left for another meal. When I have a salad I do not have dessert. In other words, I have saved three times a week and dessert four times. I have meat and two vegetables. As a result I am proud to say my bill from November 15 to December 1 was \$46.60—a saving of \$16.32.

If this is worth reading, condense it and print it for the benefit of others trying to cope with the H. C. L. and at the same time get a bit of enjoyment out of a home improvement.

MRS. E. K. L.

Valuable Hint

To Embroiderers.

DEAR ELIZABETH LATTIMER: Being very fond of embroidering and that in making scallops if working over a piece of wrapping cord instead of padding cotton it makes a more even, stronger, and prettier edge.

MRS. M. P.

Beating the

Shoe Peddlers.

DEAR ELIZABETH LATTIMER: The other day I felt that I had pulled off a great stunt and dealt a good blow to old H. C. L. I went into a shoe store to purchase that necessary article of apparel for which we pay such fabulous prices nowadays. The shoes were needed for everyday, just to be a good, substantial black shoe. The clerk informed me that the best price he could make would be \$9.50. But he offered me a very good-looking gray shoe for \$2.00 as he said that gray was not so popular as it had been and they wanted to get rid of some of their stock. I did not want gray shoes, at least to save the money I took them. I told him of the "grayness" I can myself dye them black—I have often dyed the children's shoes successfully and there is no reason why I cannot do the same with mine.

E. M.

A New Way of

Mending Lace Curtains.

DEAR ELIZABETH LATTIMER: After reading of many methods of economizing I found that I had to practice one by mending three pairs of lace curtains that were used on my front windows upstairs. First I washed and stretched the curtains, then took a curtain that was old and stretched that. Then I placed papers

on the floor and took each curtain separate and cut pieces out of the old curtain and pasted it on the good ones with stiff flour paste and when dry they really looked very good.

MRS. E. B.

Another Enthusiast for the

Electric Washing Machine.

DEAR ELIZABETH LATTIMER: I have a suggestion that has saved me a considerable amount in cutting my household expenses. I paid an average of from \$15 to \$20 sending my linen and all flat work to a laundry and the wearing clothes to a laundress. Every week there would be from one to four pieces lost. I saw the electric washing machine and the electric iron advertised. I decided to try both and do my own laundry. I will say I have saved at least \$15 a month (if not more) by washing with an electric washing machine. And there is absolutely no labor at all to it. It is really interesting to run them, and the satisfaction of knowing one's clothes have been laundered at home and are pure and clean. I haven't missed a cent I have paid on it. It is such a saving to me, both money and labor.

MRS. M. I. G.

Dorothy B.'s Fruit

Cake Bread Pudding.

DEAR ELIZABETH LATTIMER: This pudding recipe is original and has saved me by its use more dollars than one. The H. C. L. is beaten, since there are no eggs and no butter to be bought. Pour boiling water on any quantity of dry bread, sweet, one cup dry cocoa, one teaspoon salt, two teaspoons baking powder, two teaspoons vanilla, one teaspoon cinnamon, one cup sugar or karo syrup, one cup raisins, floured; steam or bake in slow oven for two hours.

Sauce for pudding: One cup cornstarch, one cup sugar or karo syrup, one pint cold water, one-half juice lemon. Boil, stirring until cornstarch is cooked. Serve hot or cold.

MRS. J. M. D.

Washing Serge Suit

Proves Successful.

DEAR ELIZABETH LATTIMER: Here is an idea that is worth passing along, even if it does not win a prize. I had a black serge suit, very much soiled and cut in a style of three years ago. So I bought a package of soap bark bars at the drug store and washed the skirt thoroughly (the directions are on the package). After it had dried I pressed it on the wrong side, laying a damp towel on the inside to keep the iron from leaving a shiny mark. I then cut it by a new pattern, made the belt and pockets of black taffeta, and trimmed it with black buttons. It looks as good as new, and no one would ever suspect it is an old skirt made over.

MRS. J. M. D.

All of us who have spent a good many pennies on soap flakes for fine laundering will be cross to think we ourselves did not think of today's price idea. Although it seems simple, it is a real money-saver and one everyone can share.

Simple But Universal Idea

Gets Today's Prize.

DEAR ELIZABETH LATTIMER: If the toilet soap a woman uses is white and pure (as it ought to be) it would be wise for her to save the pieces and reduce them to powder to be used, instead of the advertised soap flakes, for her fine laundry work. Many a dollar may be saved in this way.

E. WING.

On the Other Hand—

He—Please let me hold your hand a minute.

She—All right; but how are you going to know when the minute is up?

He—Oh, I'll have to have your second hand for that.

\$1 PAID FOR EACH DOLLAR SAVED

How I Saved a Dollar.

Here is a chance for every one to earn a dollar by telling how she has saved a dollar. It may be a dollar or more. It may have been saved in a day or a week. However, all that matters is HOW it was saved.

\$1 saved and \$1 earned by the telling of the saving makes \$2. How about it? Be brief and write only on one side of paper.

I will award a prize of \$1 each day for one of the suggestions which I print.

ELIZABETH LATTIMER.

P. S.—If you want a prize, you must be willing to have your name and address used, because that is only fair to other contestants, who have a right to know that each day's prize winner is an actual person. However, I am delighted to have all sorts of ideas sent in, which, if not given a prize, will be printed with initials only and help the other readers.

If your first letter doesn't get a prize, try again. Even if it does, that is no bar to your getting another if your idea is worth it.

E. L.

Do You Know That—

There are 1,200 women doctors in Great Britain?

The world's railways are now estimated at 500,000 miles?

No living animal has more than five toes, digits or claws to each limb?

The United States recently bought England's largest airship, still uncompleted?

The Dutch regard a stork's nest on their houses as a sign of good fortune?

Starfish, which contain much nitrogen, are used as a fertilizer by the Japanese?

Dealers in silver in France will readily give 140 francs in notes for 100 francs in silver?

The war areas of France have lost about one-fifth of their population from various causes?

Vagrancy was highest in England in January, 1919, since when it has steadily been decreasing?

On a Bit of String.

A large crowd had halted and were looking up at a fourth-story window. The lower sash was open. A child leaned far out over the sill, trying to catch a sparrow.

Exclamations of horror broke out as the infant reached further and further over the sill.

At length a woman with a basket cried out:

"What idiots you men are! Why don't you go and tell the child's mother?"

Three or four started, but they had not crossed the street before the child lost its balance and pitched out head first.

There was a shriek, which was suddenly checked, as the child stopped short in his headlong drop and hung squawling two feet below the window, with a cord tied round his waist.

His wails brought a woman to the window. She pulled him up into the room again and then shouted to the gaping crowd below:

"Think I don't know my business, eh? Well, I just do, and you can move on, please!"

A Finishing School

A MAP OF

THE HEART.



"FOR young ladies"—though young Dan—if he could have a school all his own, instead of being a "visiting" professor—would have it co-educational. However he does the best he can with his Map of the Human Heart and the intricate diagramming of how to reach it on the shortest possible line, and somehow he never fails with his giggling pupils.

—NELL BRINKLEY.

Household Suggestions

THE following makes a nice supper dish: Boil one pound of hake, cod, or fresh haddock, remove skin and bones, flake, the fish. Mix together some bread crumbs and chopped parsley. Grease a pudding basin, and fill with alternate layers of fish and bread crumbs. Put small pieces of margarine between each layer. Season with pepper, salt, and mixed dried herbs. When the bowl is filled, beat up one egg, add a drop of water, and pour over the fish. Place a small piece of margarine on top, cover with greased paper, and bake for twenty minutes in a moderate oven. This may be served hot with parsley sauce, or cold with salad, or, better still, with mayonnaise sauce.

Many cooks who use the casserole for stews do not trouble to use it for sweets. If fruit is brought to the boil in a casserole and subsequently finished in the hot-box, it will be found very much more tender and better flavored than if stewed in the ordinary way.

For poached eggs and tomatoes remove the core of some tomatoes, add salt and pepper, and lay in a buttered tin in the oven for ten minutes. Place each tomato on a small piece of toast and lay on the top of a poached egg.

When the curtains will not draw easily, remove the rings and rub the pole thoroughly with paraffin. Replace the rings and they will slip along quite smoothly.

To pick up little pieces of broken glass, wet a wad of cloth, lay it on the floor where the fragments are and pat it. The little particles will adhere to the damp cloth.

When a baking dish gets burned in the using, it should not be scraped. Simply place a little water and ashes in it and the burned surface will come off easily without injuring the dish.

Fish, before cooking, should always be washed in cold water, but not left in the water, or it will lose flavor and firmness.

The Mid-Winter Wardrobe

By Rita Stuyvesant.

AT this season of the year when one's winter clothes are beginning to look shabby and it is yet too early to appear in one's new spring attire, it is a good time to look over the wardrobe and freshen up a bit. Whether it is one's winter coat, suit, tricotine frock purchased in the fall, or perhaps a grayly figured blouse, that needs a new note, now is the time to begin.

Of course, a thorough cleaning and pressing will often do wonders with one's suit or coat and perhaps it is only a new blouse that is needed to freshen it up a little. Georgette blouses of suit shades are well liked, but if you have been wearing one for the past few months, select something light, or perhaps a grayly figured blouse. Slip-on over blouses of hip-length still promise to be popular despite the long time they have been worn. A blouse of taupe gray worn over a camisole of turquoise blue is most effective, and if one adds a bit of hand embroidery in blue wool, the result is truly charming.

Figured blouses are also lovely worn over plain colored camisoles and girdles. With silk or satin cord. One can choose either a slip-over model or the caught-in-puffed over Balkan effect. The latter is more becoming to the very slim girl.

This is a good time to buy fur pieces, and very often one can purchase short lengths left from earlier in the season. A new fur collar and cuffs will add considerably to your suit. Squirrel, nutria, opossum and seal are smart for a heavy suit.

But if it is your tricotine or serge frock that you have wearied of and desire to change a little, you can make a new top of satin or figured silk, leaving a panel of the material both front and back. New sleeves, too, are an improvement, and often can replace worn ones. Another smart way to freshen your serge frock is to cut the sleeves off to elbow length and finish them with turn-back cuffs of pretty pastel satin. A rolled monks collar of the same material finishes the over neck. For this one might choose gold, rose, French blue, green or henna colored satin or fallie silk.

Perhaps it is your underwear that needs mending. For the silk undershirt, one can buy a dust ruffle all ready to sew on. Or you can re-trim your crepe de chine finery if it has lost its fresh coloring. New heading and ribbon will often renew the appearance and lengthen the wear of the garment.

Hats, too, will often be improved by a good brushing. A bit of new trimming of an entirely different style will completely change the appearance of an old hat.

The Rhyming Optimist

THERE are stacks of pleasant places filled with gay and smiling faces where I often think that I would like to work. There are jobs remunerative for the alien and native for the Hindoo, the Armenian and Turk. Now, I sometimes think of taking to the trade of candy-making, for that would be a sweet and tasty job; I'd eat nougat and marshmallow 'til I grew fat and sorrow. In a candy shop I surely would play loob.

Although some guys say: "Twouldn't it be like a fat man in a circus? I am sure that I could find a lot of fun. With the girl who charms the adder, I would chat 'til life grew gladder, but my wife says: 'Such things really are not done.' She claims I use no discretion in the choice of a profession, and of course my wife is almost always right; but, no matter who said: 'Funny' if I only had the money I would start a sunshine shop before tonight. I would start a store where roses nodded to the other posies, and brought a glint of sunshine in the room, where the daffodils so yellow seemed to beckon to a fellow and say: 'Come in and watch us chase the gloom.' And I'd love to see the flowers, with their hints of sun and showers, setting out on errands full of love and cheer, and my shop would be so shining that I'd never feel like pining, although I lost a lot of cash each year. There are many jobs so pleasant that I'd think each price or peasant could find just what he'd like to do the best; but if I may watch the flowers shedding sunshine through the hours, I will let the other chap have all the rest.

The Need of Warmth

By BRICE BELDEN, M. D.

THE idea that people can be "hardened" to resist cold represents only a half truth. Certainly we can develop bodily vigor and a normal degree of resistance to cold, after which we will go to an extreme at our peril.

It is a mistake for any one to try to endure cold weather without wearing sufficiently warm clothing. This is because, in such circumstances, enormous demands are made upon the heat-producing power of the body, at the expense of the nervous energy of the individual.

The fact that many persons seem to keep well, although exposing themselves injudiciously where one considers certain evil results not ordinarily associated with such exposure.

The people who swim in the ocean during the winter and play on the beach between dips may not contract pneumonia, but, on the other hand, they may be hard to live with the following week. The judge who so disports himself may be expected to be cranky and severe with attendants and the accused (and with his wife). And this is only one of a score of evil results.

Children's power of producing heat is limited, and the custom of dressing them with legs exposed is as cruel as well as unhygienic. It is a good way to make them unduly nervous.

Whenever one feels cold or even chilly he should protect himself with extra garments.

The wearing of light clothing throughout the year, and the habit of dispensing with an overcoat, for example, through the winter, in order to demonstrate one's vigor, are ill-advised, and only reveal one's ignorance of elementary hygiene.

Sure Out of Luck.

"How are you affected? Appetite all right?" the medico asked the pale soldier.

"Never better, sir," groaned the doughty, "the trouble is that everything I eat goes A. W. O. L."

The Two Voices

By Virginia Terhune Van de Water.

Author of many novels and one of the country's best known writers of short stories.

CHAPTER XVI.

HUGH RODNEY'S father and Doris Courtney's sister looked at each other gravely when they were alone. Neither spoke until the rustle of Doris' dress in the hall had died away.

Then the parent drew a long breath. "She has gone up to the man who loves her more than all else in the world. Does she love him?"

The question was so unexpected that Ruth gasped.

"Oh, Mr. Rodney," she stammered, "she—Doris would not have become engaged to him if she had not loved him!"

"Yes—but that was some months ago. He was going away; he was handsome and bright; his prospects were excellent. Wait—as she raised her hand deprecatingly—do not mean that Doris took all these things into consideration. But she may have been in love with love. Many young people are—and they think they are in love with some particular person. The question is—when she sees Hugh looking as he does now, what will the effect be? If the feeling she had for him was real affection, his present plight will strengthen it. If not—it will shock and repel her."

"Oh, I do not think that!" Ruth protested. "Suffering always appeals to a woman—certainly to such a tender-hearted person as Doris."

Yet even as she spoke she felt a lack of conviction. Her heart was conscious of this lack, too, as his next sentence proved.

"To be sentimentally sorry is one thing; to love so deeply that one can stand seeing a painful change is quite another."

Father understood.

"Forgive me, my dear, for speaking like this of your sister. But—can you understand what is at stake? If Doris were to fall Hugh now the results might be disastrous. The doctor in Minneapolis and Dr. Benton here have said that he must be kept cheerful and hopeful. Without Doris at this juncture he would be lost. That is one reason why the boy is so dear to me,—because he looks like his mother—and she loved him so deeply."

"I know," his companion murmured sympathetically. "Yet, dear Mr. Rodney, that is the way of the world. Perhaps even you were like that when you were young," she supplemented with a faint smile.

He looked at her affectionately. "Yes, Ruth," he said, softly, "I was just like that. That is one reason why the boy is so dear to me,—because he looks like his mother—and she loved him so deeply."

His voice broke. He threw his head back impatiently.

"I must not be a weak fool. Child, help me keep my boy's happiness safe."

Ruth held out her hands to him. "I promised him I would when he went away," she said, quickly. "Those were the very words I used. I said, 'I will keep your happiness safe for you.'"

"But how—unless Doris helps?" the father argued.

"I will find a way," Ruth said, confidently, although she had no idea what the "way" would be. "But you and I are worrying ahead of time, aren't we?" she asked, brightly. "We are building a man of straw and planning how we are to fight him."

The man tried to laugh. "Yes, we are. That's true. I hope that I may be mistaken and that Doris is as strong as I wish her to be—as you are, my dear."

A Loyal Sister.

"Thank you," Ruth nodded her gratitude at the compliment. "But Doris is older than I—and much, much more lovable."

"No, please do not contradict me," she started to speak. "I know my sister far better than you do. And I know just how good and fine she is."

She uttered this opinion with more decision, because her conscience warned her that she might have seemed disloyal to Doris. The father's fears had been so much like her own misgivings that she had let herself show a doubt which was not very kind to the absent girl.

"I must go downtown for an hour or so," Mr. Rodney said, suddenly going into the hall for his hat and overcoat, then returning to the drawing-room. "If Hugh seems any worse after his talk with Doris, I can come home. But I have been away from the office for so long that I must give some matters there my personal attention today if possible. And Dr. Denton is not to bring the specialist until the afternoon. I will be back by then."

"You will let us know the result of the consultation?" Ruth asked timidly.

"Of course I will."

"Doris will be very anxious," she said by way of explanation. "Naturally, she will," he agreed.

"I will not wait any longer now, for Hugh will keep her with him for a good while, no doubt—and the maids are to listen for his bell when she has gone."

In the meantime, make yourself at home, Ruth. Sit down and read, or do as you please."

She thanked him and closed the front door behind him.

He had said that Doris would be upstairs a good while. If she lingered with Hugh it would be an excellent sign. If not—

There was a rustle in the hall above. Then the library door opened and closed. There was a subdued sound of voices.

With a vague feeling of uneasiness Ruth went back into the drawing room. Doris must have lingered outside the door of the library trying to summon courage to enter—tasting, perhaps, for any sound from the waiting invalid.

But at last she had gone in to her lover. By now she was probably folded in his arms.

To Be Continued.

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KOONS & MURPHY,
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Mother Had Told Willie a Dozen Times Not to Wind Up That Airplane Propeller Near Grandpa's Beard.

By FONTAINE FOX.



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